From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Facebook "Unintentionally Uploaded" 1.5 Million Users" Email Contacts Without Permission
Date: Thursday, April 18, 2019 5:38:53 AM

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- Facebook Inc. said it "unintentionally uploaded" the email contacts of 1.5 million users without their knowledge or consent starting in May 2016, and the uploaded data has been used to improve the company's ad targeting, build the platform's web of social connections and recommend friends to add. The discovery comes after a security researcher noticed that some users were being asked to enter their email password when they signed up for new accounts, and reporters noticed a pop-up also appeared during sign-up saying Facebook is "importing" your contacts without asking first. (Business Insider)

- European Android users will now be able to choose which browsers and search engines they would like to use, said Paul Gennai, Google's product

management director, in an effort to avoid EU antitrust sanctions and ease regulator concerns. Users will now be able to choose from five browser options following Google's record 4.34 billion euro (roughly $5 billion) fine last year from regulators for allegedly using its market power to block competition on its services, such as in internet browsing. (Reuters)

- Amazon.com Inc. said it plans to close its domestic marketplace in China and stop providing third-party merchant services in the country starting July 18. Consumers in China will still be able to buy items from the United States, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom through Amazon's global site as the company shifts its focus to global sales and its cloud services. (Financial Times)

Chart Review

Figure of the week: Gap in universal mobile phone and internet access in Africa
Brookings Institution

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

04/18/2019

HardwareCon 2019	
LocoMoco Security Conference	
TechCrunch Sessions: Robotics + AI 2019	8:00 am
Engine's lunch panel focused on privacy laws in the U.S. and abroad	12:00 pm

04/19/2019

LocoMoco Security Conference

04/25/2019

Broadcom's Mission to Modernize 2019 8:30 am

View full calendar

The Brands That Define American Culture and

Commerce

Morning Consult analyzed over 400,000 survey interviews to determine this year's rankings. See who made the list.

General

How Did Tech Billionaires' Favorite Dem Become Bernie Sanders' Co-Chair?
Cameron Joseph, Talking Points Memo

A few weeks before Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) launched his presidential campaign, he and Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA) went out for what Khanna thought was going to be a late lunch focused on policy strategy.

Uber Nears Investment Deal for Self-Driving Car Unit
Maureen Farrell and Corrie Driebusch, The Wall Street Journal

Uber Technologies Inc. is nearing a deal with a group including SoftBank Group Corp. that would invest in its self-driving car unit at a valuation of $7.25 billion, according to people familiar with the matter, as the ride-sharing firm readies its initial public offering.

Foxconn's Deal With Wisconsin Should Be Revised, Gov. Tony Evers Says
Tiffany Hsu, The New York Times

Gov. Tony Evers of Wisconsin is dubious that Foxconn, the Taiwanese electronics giant known for making iPhones, will fulfill its promise of creating 13,000 jobs at a planned plant in the state. So he wants a redo of the contract.

A Measles Case Has Hit Google's Silicon Valley Headquarters
Stephanie M. Lee and Ryan Mac, BuzzFeed News

As Google fights criticism that it has let anti-vaccine disinformation flourish on its platform, the tech giant's Silicon Valley campus, where thousands work, is now confronting its own in-house case of measles as the virus resurges across the United States.

Shared electric scooters surge, overtaking docked bikes
Cathy Bussewitz, The Associated Press

Electric scooters are overtaking station-based bicycles as the most popular form of shared transportation outside transit and cars in the U.S. Riders took 38.5 million trips on shared electric scooters in 2018, eclipsing the 36.5 million trips on shared, docked bicycles, according to a report released Wednesday by the National Association of City Transportation Officials.

Stocks Mixed, Bonds Advance Before Holiday Weekend: Markets Wrap
Todd White, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures edged lower and European stocks fluctuated on Thursday as weak euro-area data compounded a cautious mood before the long holiday weekend. Treasuries rallied while the yen and dollar strengthened.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

European Parliament passes online platform rules placing new limits on Amazon and Google
Chris O'Brien, VentureBeat

The European Parliament passed a new set of regulations aimed at curtailing the power of digital platforms operated by tech giants like Amazon, Google, Apple, and Facebook. While the final vote tally has not been published, the measures were adopted in a Wednesday afternoon session, according to a European Commission press release.

Delays to T-Mobile-Sprint Deal Would Dent SoftBank
Mayumi Negishi, The Wall Street Journal

Possible delays to Sprint Corp.'s planned merger with T-Mobile US Inc. threaten Sprint parent SoftBank Group Corp.'s ambition to invest in the world's most valuable startups. The merger between Sprint and T-Mobile, announced last year, would lower SoftBank's large debt by taking taking tens of billions of dollars in Sprint debt off SoftBank's balance sheet.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

German Spies Dismiss Trump's Huawei Threats, Sources Say
Patrick Donahue, Bloomberg

German authorities are dismissing President Donald Trump's threat to cut off intelligence if they don't take steps to keep equipment made by China's Huawei Technologies Co. out of the nation's fifth-generation mobile network, according to four people with knowledge of the matter.

Dems introduce bill to tackle 'digital divide'
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

A group of Democratic senators, including 2020 contender Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), on Wednesday introduced a bill that would fund state and local projects aimed at tackling the "digital divide." Klobuchar in a statement said the bill would help "bring high-speed internet to communities across the county."

FCC Rural Broadband Fund Would Move Funds From Existing Program
Bill Lucia, Nextgov

The rural broadband fund that Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai proposed last week would rely on funding from an existing broadband program slated to expire next year, while also setting higher standards for internet speeds, according to the FCC.

T-Mobile, Comcast launch cross-network anti-robocall feature
Abrar Al-Heeti, CNET

T-Mobile and Comcast are teaming up to fight robocalls. The companies said Wednesday they're rolling out a feature that protects consumers from robocalls and spam across their networks.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Facebook bans far-right groups including BNP, EDL and Britain First
Alex Hern, The Guardian

Facebook has permanently banned a number of far-right organisations and individuals including the British National party (BNP), the English Defence League (EDL) and Britain First under its "dangerous individuals and organisations" policy.

Popular Apps In Google's Play Store Are Abusing Permissions And Committing Ad Fraud
Craig Silverman and Jeremy Singer-Vine, BuzzFeed News

A host of popular Android apps from a major Chinese developer, including a selfie app with more than 50 million downloads, have been committing large-scale ad fraud and abusing user permissions, a BuzzFeed News investigation of popular Android apps has found. In several cases, the apps took steps that concealed their connections to the developer, DU Group, to users and failed to clearly disclose they were collecting and sending data to China.

Machine Learning Identifies Weapons in the Christchurch Attack Video. We Know, We Tried It
Joseph Cox, Motherboard

29 minutes after the Christchurch terrorist started streaming his attack on Facebook, a Facebook user first reported the stream as potentially violating the site's policies. The video included the killer filming in a first-person perspective shooting innocent civilians.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Facebook Poised to Fight Disclosure of U.S. Privacy Assessments
Ben Brody, Bloomberg

Facebook Inc. will seek to block disclosures from years' worth of privacy reports it submitted to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, according to filings in a lawsuit seeking the release of information in the documents.

Ad Industry's Efforts to Influence Congress on Data Privacy Laws Met With Deep Skepticism
Patrick Coffee and Erik Oster, Adweek

Private data and its relationship to the ad revenue that drives some of the

world's largest businesses are among the day's most contentious topics. In the midst of controversies surrounding the collection, leveraging and sale of consumer data to advertisers by Facebook, Google and other platforms, can the ad industry itself be trusted to help Congress devise legal solutions for American consumers?

US facial recognition will cover 97 percent of departing airline passengers within four years
Jon Porter, The Verge

The Department of Homeland Security says it expects to use facial recognition technology on 97 percent of departing passengers within the next four years. The system, which involves photographing passengers before they board their flight, first started rolling out in 2017, and was operational in 15 US airports as of the end of 2018.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Why Apple was so upset with Qualcomm - and why it finally had to give in
Kif Leswing, CNBC

Qualcomm and Apple have settled a bitter legal battle over billions of dollars in royalties and licensing fees just as it went to trial this week in San Diego. As part of the settlement, all legal action worldwide between the two companies will be dropped, and Apple will buy Qualcomm chips again.

The Terrible Timing of YouTube's Notre-Dame Snafu
Alex Webb, Bloomberg

Almost instantly after the sparks ignited at Notre-Dame de Paris on Monday evening, footage of the flames proceeding to swallow the cathedral's iconic spire spread through social media. And whenever a disaster becomes international news, as we've seen time and again, a Silicon Valley mishap is sure to follow close behind.

Research Reports

Consent Management Software & Experts

PossibleNOW

Consent management and collection is complex. In many cases, business communications are government-regulated and require consent in order to avoid significant fines and to maintain consumer trust.

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